GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5393
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
PROMOTING FOOTBALL
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the Indian football team at the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) tournament was not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote/develop football game in the country so that the Indian football team would be able to win medals in various international sports competitions?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) to (d) : Out of last 3 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) tournaments, Indian team was champion in 2005 & 2009 and runners-up in 2007. Next SAFF tournament is to be held in December, 2011.

The primary responsibility for the development of various sports disciplines vests in the National Sports Federation (NSF) concerned, which in case of football is the All India Football Federation. The Government supplements their efforts through financial assistance for holding national/international sports events in India, participation of sportspersons/teams in international sports events abroad, training/coaching of national level sportspersons/teams through Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and consumables etc. as per agreed Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs). At state level, it is the responsibility of state level federations and the concerned state government to develop various sports disciplines.Apart from this, the Sports Authority of India is running the following promotional schemes in which football is one of the disciplines and training by experienced coaches with scientific back up is provided to the players to achieve excellence at national/international level:

(a)National Sports Talent Scheme (NSTC)

(b)Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)

(c)SAI Training Centre (STC)

(d)Special Area Games (SAG)

(e)Centre of Excellence (COE)

Under above schemes, there are total 1441 trainees, (1302 boys & 139 girls) getting training in football discipline in various SAI Centres.